

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A leg protection device comprising:
 - an airbag arranged inside a member disposed in front of a seat;
 - a gas generator for inflating the airbag; and
 - a cover covering the airbag and configured to open when the airbag is inflated, wherein the cover is configured to break along tear lines when the airbag is inflated to form a plurality of laterally arranged flaps when the airbag is inflated, and wherein each of the flaps are provided with a hinge portion formed in the cover, each flap rotates about its respective hinge portion, and wherein each hinge portion is formed as a linear concave groove.
2. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the tear lines are positioned so that at least four laterally arranged flaps are formed.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the tear lines are positioned so that at least one flap opens upward and at least one flap opens downward.
4. (Currently Amended) A breakable cover for an airbag configured to deploy into a position for protecting the legs of an occupant of a vehicle seat, wherein the cover comprises a tear line positioned so that when the cover breaks as a result of the inflation of the airbag a first portion of the cover rotates upward and a second portion of the cover rotates downward, and wherein the first portion and the second portion each include a plurality of flaps and each flap is ~~are each~~ provided with a hinge portion formed in the cover, the first portion and the second portion rotate about ~~[[its]]~~ the respective hinge portions, and wherein each hinge portion is formed as a linear concave groove.
5. CANCELLED

6. CANCELLED

7. (Original) The cover of claim 4, wherein the tear line is positioned so that when the cover breaks a third portion of the cover rotates laterally.

8. (Original) The cover of claim 7, wherein the third portion of the cover includes a plurality of flaps.

9. (Original) The cover of claim 4, wherein the tear line includes a plurality of vertical sections.

10. (Currently Amended) An airbag module for protecting the legs of a vehicle occupant comprising:

an airbag; and

a frangible cover overlying the airbag,

wherein the cover includes a tear line ~~and a hinge portion~~ positioned so that as the cover breaks, a first portion of the cover rotates upward and a second portion of the cover rotates downward, wherein the first and second portions each include a plurality of flaps, each flap being ~~and wherein the hinge portion is formed as a plurality of linear concave grooves.~~

11. CANCELLED

12. (Currently Amended) The module of claim 10, ~~[[11,]]~~ wherein the cover includes additional tear lines positioned in the first portion of the cover to form the plurality of flaps.

13. (Original) The module of claim 12, wherein the additional tear lines are parallel.

14. (Original) The module of claim 10, wherein the cover is configured to break into the first portion, the second portion and a third portion, wherein the third portion is configured to rotate laterally in a direction generally orthogonal to the vertical direction.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein a depth of the hinge portion is less than a depth of the tear lines.

16. (Previously Presented) The cover of claim 4, wherein a depth of the hinge portion is less than a depth of the tear lines.

17. (Previously Presented) The module of claim 10, wherein a depth of the hinge portion is less than a depth of the tear lines.

18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the tear lines are positioned so that the cover is divided into eight or more zones, with at least four above zone regions and at least four below zone regions.

19. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 18, wherein when the cover breaks open, the at least four above zone regions rotate upwards and the at least four below zone regions rotate downwards.